

Press Agency

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FM FBIS WASHDC

TO FBIS TOKYO JAPAN

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REF TK 186 ON PTI CONTRACT: CONTRACT TERMS ARE ACCEPTABLE BUT
WE STILL AWAIT FORMAL APPROVAL OF YOUR CONTRACTING AUTHORITY. WILL
ADVISE. 02/1900Z OCT

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2 October 1973

To: Chief, L&R
Through: Chief, ~~EC~~
Info: A/C, Ops
From:
Subject: Proposed Contract with PTI

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1. The following is a commentary on the proposed contract with the Press Trust of India, which was set forth in TK186.

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2. I see no problem in associating FBIS with the U.S. Government.

3. The proviso about maintaining the integrity of PTI material is a good one and might well be included in future contracts with other agencies.

4. If it is possible, we should attempt to delete the words "radio teletype regular" from the phrase "...the right to monitor Press Trust of India radio teletype regular news transmissions..." For one thing, PTI also has newscasts (to Kathmandu) which we might want to monitor sometime. Also, PTI may commence special transmissions to deal with unusual events. (There is another reason for deleting "regular" but it should not be made known to PTI. By obtaining rights as broad as possible, we may be able to use any PTI correspondents' dispatches we find with impunity.)

5. The stipulation about providing the times and frequencies is not wholly satisfactory. It should include a provision that PTI will send the schedule information to us through a channel other than the radioteletype service itself.

6. There is another provision which ought to be made a part of this and other contracts. The press agency should agree to make no reference to FBIS in its radiotelegraph transmissions except as the subject of a legitimate news item.

file: Cov-11

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